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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Daniel J. McKernan et al.

Serial No.:

10/039,857

Filing Date:

10/26/2001

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FIXING A GRAFT

IN A BONE TUNNEL

Group Art Unit No.:

3738

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED

Examiner:

Hieu Phan

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Attorney's Docket No.:

MIT-0246

April 28, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>James A. Sheridan</u>

April 28, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Sir:

RESPONSE

This is in response to the outstanding Official Action in the above-identified application, in which the Examiner indicated that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Specie 1: Fig. 42;

Specie 2: Figs. 43 and 44;

Specie 3: Fig. 45;

Specie 4: Figs. 46 and 47; and

Specie 5: Fig. 48.

In response, Applicants hereby elect, without prejudice, to prosecute the invention of Specie 2, Figs. 43 and 44.

Claims 1-11 and 18-22 are believed to be readable on the elected species.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute all non-elected subject matter in related applications.

Respectfully submitted,

ames a. Sheridan 4/28/04

James A. Sheridan

Registration No. 43,114

Pandiscio & Pandiscio

470 Totten Pond Road

Waltham, MA 02451-1914

Tel. No.: (781) 290-0060

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